

International Banking Federation delegation visits Indian Banks' Association



(L-R) Sally J Scutt, managing director, IBFed; David Bell, chairman, IBFed; H N Sinor, chief executive, IBA

International Banking Federation (IBFed) is a forum of six leading associations of bankers namely, British Bankers' Association, American Bankers' Association, Australian Bankers' Association, European Bankers' Association (covering 32 countries), Canadian Bankers' Association and Japanese Bankers' Association. It was formed three years back in March 2004 to address legislative, regulatory and other issues that are critical to the global banking community. The forum meets every quarter to discuss and take unified views on these issues.

On IBA's invitation, David Bell, CEO, Australian Bankers' Association and Sally Scutt, deputy chief executive, British Bankers' Association, who are chairman and managing director of IBFed respectively, visited India on June 18, 2007. Payment systems, compliance, capital accord under Basel II, corporate governance, financial crime, AML, and International Accounting Standards were the main topics of discussion with a view to gauge how India is placed in this thought process. IBA arranged an interface meeting of the IBFed delegates with Reserve Bank of India (RBI), which was chaired by Shyamala Gopinath, deputy governor, RBI.

This was followed by a meeting at IBA. A few of the senior bankers and CEOs of Fixed Income Money Market and Derivatives Association (FIMMDA) and Foreign Exchange Dealers Association of India (FEDAI) joined the meeting at IBA. The concerns raised by the IBFed members were similar to those engaging the Indian bankers. The IBFed members submitted that there were

data issues in implementing Basel II Advanced Approach and the Accord Implementation Group was considering how the banks with many international branches could work with fewer regulations. IBFed was also concerned that default in hedge funds could impact banking systems. They were of the opinion that hedge funds and moneychangers have to be brought under guidelines and practices globally.

Workshop on Business Continuity & Disaster Recovery

IBA and Business Continuity Management Institute (BCMI) conducted a three-day workshop on 'Business Continuity (BC) & Disaster Recovery (DR)' during July 9th through 11th, 2007 at Hotel Taj President, Mumbai. The workshop was conducted to provide bankers hands-on training in implementing and running a successful and effective BC and DR programme. The first two days covered how to design and implement a successful BCM-DR program in line with the 10 professional practices for BC practitioners which is the globally accepted body of knowledge for BCM-DR professionals. The presentations on business impact, risk analysis, recovery strategy plan development and programme management were made by Rakesh Pande, head, corporate services function at ABN Amro and Dhiraj Lal, country manager, BCMI. On the third day, a simulation exercise was conducted to help the participants to get a real-life understanding of how a typical disaster situation can unfold and how to effectively manage such a situation.

Annual General Meeting of IBA



Left to right: HN Sinor, VP Shetty, Dr YV Reddy, MBN Rao, Ananthkrishna

The 60th Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Indian Banks Association (IBA) and 20th AGM of the Banks' Sports Board (BSB) commenced with the welcome note by Lira Alponso and Joshua comperes for the evening, at NCPA Hall, Mumbai.

V P Shetty, chairman, IBA and chairman & managing director, IDBI Ltd; M B N Rao, deputy chairman, IBA and chairman & managing director, Canara Bank; Ananthkrishna, honorary secretary, IBA and chairman & CEO, Karnataka Bank Ltd, M D Mallya, vice president, Banks' Sports Board and chairman & managing director, Bank of Maharashtra and H N Sinor, chief executive, IBA were present on the dais.

Presentation of Awards

Before commencing the AGM proceedings, C H Bhabha Award to encourage research among the bank employees, and the BSB Awards for outstanding sportspersons in banks were announced.

Narinder Kumar Bhasin, assistant vice president, UTI Bank got the first position in C H Bhabha awards for his topic 'Impact of technology on payment systems', while the second position was claimed by Dr Avinash N Abhyankar, secretary to chief executive, Akola Urban Co-op Bank Ltd for the topic 'Role of urban co-operative banks in the emerging competitive environment'. The third and fourth positions went respectively to Naresh Chandra Sahoo, officer, State Bank of Mysore for his dissertation topic 'Business process re-engineering in CBS environment in

public sector banks' and Ms. S Rajeshwari, deputy manager, Andhra Bank on 'Human resources as a business deliverable'. All the awards were presented by V P Shetty.

Banks' Sports Board

M D Mallya, chairman & managing director, Bank of Maharashtra and vice president, Banks' Sports Board presented the BSB Awards 2006-07. The award for the Best Sportsperson-First place went to H M Jyothi, Athlete from Canara Bank. She has represented India at the 15th Asian Games, Doha and won several medals at the 33rd National Games and 5th Banks' Olympiad. The award for Best Sportsperson-Second place was awarded to Anuradha Dongaonkar, Kabaddi player, Bank of Baroda. She represented India at the 10th South Asian Games, Colombo. The Indian Kabaddi Women's team won the first place. She was also a member of the winning team at the 33rd National Games, Guwahati. The award for Best Sportsperson-Third place was awarded to K Manoj, Kabaddi player, Vijaya Bank. He was a member of the winning Indian Kabaddi Men's Team at the 10th South Asian Games, Colombo. V P Shetty, Chairman, IBA



Dr YV Reddy

presented the Best Bank Award to Union Bank of India. The bank had successfully organised the 5th Banks' Olympiad in Mumbai.

The Business Session

The Annual Report 2006-07, audited accounts of the Association for the year ended March, 2007, and the appointment of K S Aiyar & company, chartered accountants, Mumbai as auditors of the Association for the financial year 2007-08, were adopted unanimously by means of voice vote.

Election to Managing Committee of IBA

Five representatives of public sector banks were elected to the managing committee of IBA, namely M B N Rao, Dr K Ramakrishnan, M V Nair, C P Swarnkar, and B Sambamurthy; chairman & managing director of Canara Bank, Andhra Bank, Union Bank of India, Syndicate Bank, Corporation Bank respectively. Vishwavir Ahuja of Bank of America, Rana Kapoor of Yes Bank, and V J Carneiro of Citizen Credit Co-op Bank Ltd were also elected to the managing committee representing member foreign banks, private sector banks, and co-operative sector banks respectively.

After this the 60th AGM of the IBA was declared concluded.

M D Mallya, vice president, BSB conducted its 20th AGM giving an account of its activities during the year. The BSB annual report 2006-07 and the proposal that the chairman, IBA may fill the vacancies arising in the Governing Council were adopted unanimously.

Dr Y V Reddy, governor, RBI graced the occasion by lighting the lamp. IBA chairman, V P Shetty, while welcoming Dr Reddy said: 'We are extremely happy to have Dr Y V Reddy in our midst to grace this function which incidentally marks the completion of 60 years of IBA's existence. Dr Reddy has always been too generous to us. He readily agreed to come for this function despite his exceedingly tight schedule. Of course, he did take a promise from us that we would not force him to talk on monetary policy issues. In fact, this has made us curious as to what he will speak in his keynote address today and I will not be surprised if he astonishes us with something that is so characteristic of his inimitable style'.

Giving an account of the activities of IBA, Shetty observed that 'IBA has moved away from the industry body which focused largely on industry level wage settlement to addressing many larger issues concerning the

banking industry'. Steps initiated by in the areas of electronic payments, financial inclusion, dissemination of policy prescriptions and documentation, customer protection and customer care were described in detail by him.



MBN Rao

Dr Reddy did astonish the audience by delivering an impromptu talk studded with anecdotes from his civil services career, and profound but simple pieces of advice. Appreciating the sound state of Indian banking industry, he advised top bankers to have humility. 'The new generation definitely knows more than us,' he stated, gently suggesting a break away from the feudal and strictly hierarchical mindset. Citing an example from his career in bureaucracy, he stressed that promoting an atmosphere of healthy debate without fear, and treating hierarchy only a mechanism to resolve the deadlocks in such debates, should be the way forward for banking industry.

M B N Rao, deputy chairman of IBA, proposed the vote of thanks. He aptly summed up the reaction of audience to Dr Reddy's speech thus: 'it is indeed a pleasure to listen to your address, which humorous, simple to decipher, yet, thought is provoking'.

The end of business session was then followed by an enchanting performance by Penaz Masani in concert.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

IBA-Finsight: Technology for Micro Banking

August 10, 2007

Hotel Taj President, Mumbai

IBA-Academy of Human Resources Development [AHRD]: International Conference on Human Capital: A New Paradigm in Leadership for Financial Services Sector

August 24, 2007

Hotel Taj President, Mumbai

IBA-FICCI: Global Banking: Paradigm Shift - Managing Transition

September 12-14, 2007

Hotel Hilton Towers, Mumbai



G Padmanabhan, CGM-in-charge [IT], RBI

The event focused on enterprise and information security, financial crimes and money laundering. In his welcome address, K R Kamath, executive director, Bank of India, sent out a strong message to all bankers to prepare themselves and face the scourge of physical and IT attacks in a disciplined manner. While commenting on the under-preparedness that exists in all businesses, he urged fellow bankers to be proactive to the practical security needs of their respective organisations on a day to day as well as long term basis.

G Padmanabhan, CGM in-charge, RBI delivered a riveting keynote address. He emphasized on the urgent need for bankers to acclimatize with the changing times. Reflecting on technology being a harbinger of good times for businesses, he wondered how we could collectively check its rampant and destructive misuse. To understand the complex maze of security, Padmanabhan suggested that security be split into multiple layers viz physical, logical, and information. A change in the mindset of the stakeholders' towards security aspects was the need of the hour as security was best experienced than explained.



K R Kamath, ED, Bank of India

Senior industry professionals set the tone of the day by sharing their rich experience and insights and by offering first hand knowledge on how to keep

3rd Annual Banking Security 2007

IBA and Trade Fairs & Conferences International (TFCI) organised the 3rd annual Banking Security 2007 Conference on July 12, 2007 at Hotel Taj President, Mumbai. More than 225 senior information security (IS) and IT professionals from major Indian and foreign banks and financial institutions, cyber forensic experts, regulators, members of the print & electronic media, and senior practice leaders representing several global technology giants attended the conference.

banks' IT infrastructure safe and secure at all times. Prof Krishnamurthy, research scientist, Indian Institute of Science spoke on how IT has become an all-pervasive medium and why it is the time for bankers to go beyond regulations and critically examine future requirements.



Prof H Krishnamurthy, Principal, Research Scientist Indian Institute of Science

Krishna Sastry Pendyala, assistant director, cyber forensics division, ministry of home affairs, explained in detail how cyber forensics is becoming instrumental in solving anti-state conspiracies and cracking cases of complex white collar financial frauds. He exhorted banks to be both reactive and proactive to the ever-evolving security threats.

Specific talks were delivered by various speakers on topics that included 'security for core banking solutions', 'understanding threats and strategies in an emerging technologies scenario', 'security, risk and compliance compulsions', aside from a power panel discussion on the human angle - how to understand and manage the security challenges of people who risk it in this environment.

Companies such as Novell, RSA, NCR Corporation, ISF, and Manipal Press showcased their innovative products and services to the bankers.